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WORLD FAMOUS DETECTIVE

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CHARLIE CHAN

CASE NO: 1321

FROM THE PRIVATE FILES OF INSPECTOR

Series: 1

SOMEWHERE IN THE BIG TOWN, THE COLD-HEARTED MURDERERS OF GENEROUS WIDOW MURDOCK WERE CONGRATULATING THEMSELVES ON AN EXPERT JOB... BUT IT REMAINED FOR CANNY INSPECTOR CHAN TO PUNCTURE THEIR PIPE DREAM AS HE CAME TO THE AID OF HIS OLD FRIEND COMMISSIONER O'CONNOR TO SOLVE....

THE HIT AND RUN MURDER CASE!

drawings by INGANTINO

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CHARLIE CHAN

MAKE IT QUICK, JOLTER -- YOU KNOW I CAN'T STAND THAT KIND OF STUFF!
DON'T MIND HIM, MRS. MURDOCK -- HE'S A LITTLE SENSITIVE!
OH, DEAR, - THIS IS TOO THRILLING FOR WORDS!
FIRST I LIFT HIS CHIN UP -- LIKE THIS -- AND THEN --
NO -- OHHHH -
SMACK!
FER CRYING OUT LOUD, JOLTER, -- SNAP IT UP -- I CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE OF THIS --
HA, HA -- JUST A FEW FINISHING TOUCHES, PAL -- HA, HA!
PLEASE, NO -- NO -- OHHHHH!
POW!
OKAY, PAL! YOU CAN LOOK NOW! -- HA, HA!
STOP KIDDING ME, JOLTER! CAN I HELP IT IF I GOT A SENSITIVE STOMACH?
LUCKY FOR US SHE DOESN'T HAVE A CAR -- YOU KEEP AN EYE ON HER UNTIL I GET THE GARAGE DOORS OPEN AND GIVE YOU THE SIGNAL ...
THE SHAPE SHE'S IN NOW, A PEKINESE COULD STAND GUARD OVER HER --
TOO BAD MRS. MURDOCK CAN'T APPRECIATE ALL THIS CURB SERVICE WE'RE GIVIN' HER -- BUT SHE WON'T BE NEEDING A CHAUFFER MUCH LONGER. I'LL SIGNAL JOLTER NOW!

CHARLIE CHAN

ON THE DESERTED STRIP OF SIDE ROAD, BOOTS AND JOLTER PREPARE THE LIMP FORM FOR THE FINAL STAGES OF THEIR GRISLY ASSIGNMENT.

A FEW MOMENTS LATER, WITH GAS PEDDLE DRESSED TO THE FLOOR BOARDS, THE BIG SEDAN PASSES OVER A PECULIAR "BUMP" IN THE ROAD.

AT BREAKFAST THE FOLLOWING MORNING, VACATIONING INSPECTOR CHAN'S REPAST IS INTERRUPTED MOMENTARILY BY THE SUDDEN OUTBURST OF NUMBER ONE SON!

WORTHY PERSON'S UNTIMELY DEMISE PROMPTS IMMEDIATE VISIT TO OLD FRIEND, COMMISSIONER O'CONNOR AT POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS!

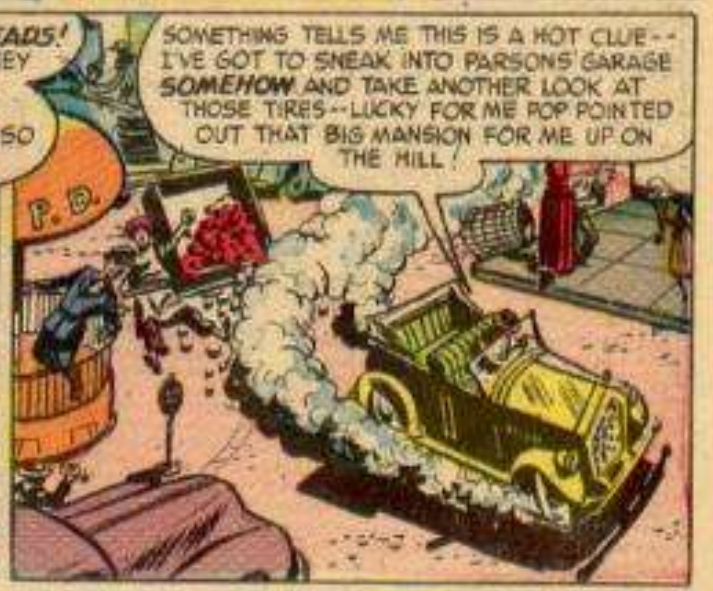
AT HEADQUARTERS, CHARLIE CHAN DISCOVERS STARTLING NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MURDOCK CASE.
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN WE COULDN'T MENTION THE WORD "MURDER" WITHOUT EXPECTING CHARLIE CHAN ON THE SCENE -- GOOD TO SEE YOU, INSPECTOR!
COMMISSIONER O'CONNOR MOST COMPLIMENTARY -- BUT MURDER REFERENCE CONFUSING!
DEATH WAS CAUSED BY A CAR PASSING OVER THE BODY -- BUT THERE WERE NO BRUISES TO INDICATE MRS. MURDOCK HAD BEEN STRUCK BY THE AUTOMOBILE -- WE THEN WENT TO HER HOME AND MADE A FURTHER DISCOVERY!
SO!..
THE MURDERER OR MURDERERS APPARENTLY FORGOT SHE NEVER OWNED A CAR -- WE FOUND FRESH TIRE PRINTS ON THE FLOOR THAT MATCHED THOSE FOUND ON HER CLOTHING WHERE THE WHEELS HAD PASSED OVER!
DEDUCTIONS REVEAL LAW REPRESENTATIVES ON WARM TRAIL!
WE'RE ON THE TRAIL, ALL RIGHT -- THE GARAGE FLOOR APPEARED TOO FRESHLY HOSED -- WE INSPECTED THE DRAIN AND DISCOVERED SEVERAL STRANDS OF GRAY HAIR BELONGING TO MRS. MURDOCK -- OUR NEXT PROBLEM IS TO FIND THE MURDER CAR!
BY THE WAY, INSPECTOR CHAN -- MEET MR. PARSONS, ATTORNEY FOR MRS. MURDOCK AND BENEFICIARY OF HER WILL -- I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD OF MR. PARSONS BEFORE!
THIS HUMBLE PERSON LONG FAMILIAR WITH RENOWNED MR. PARSONS' BRILLIANCE IN COURT ROOM!
MY PLEASURE, INSPECTOR!
IN WIDE SCOPE, ACQUAINTANCES PERHAPS CAN SUGGEST POSSIBLE ENEMIES OF MRS. MURDOCK?
AS I'VE TOLD INSPECTOR O'CONNOR, MRS. MURDOCK HAD NO ENEMIES EXCEPTING THE CUSTOMARY NUMBER OF DISGRUNTED SUITORS WHO WANTED TO MARRY HER FOR HER MONEY -- I GAVE HIM A HALF DOZEN POSSIBLE SUSPECTS!

THEY'RE JUST EXHIBIT "A"-- THAT'S ALL-- GET OUT HERE AND CHANGE THE TIRES FAST--OR I'LL REVOKE YOUR PAROLES SO FAST IT'LL MAKE YOUR HEADS SWIM!

MEANWHILE--
I WONDER WHAT'S KEEPING POP--, I'M GETTING AWFUL RESTLESS!-
MAYBE THE RADIO WILL HELP!

NEWS FLASH! POLICE ANNOUNCE THE MURDER CAR WHICH KILLED MRS. MURDOCK, WAS EQUIPPED WITH UNIQUE, HORSE SHOE SHAPED TIRE-THREADS!

HORSE SHOE-TIRE-THREADS! WHY THAT'S WHAT ATTORNEY PARSONS' CAR HAD--- I REMEMBER STARING AT THEM FOR AN HOUR OR SO WHILE I WAS WAITING FOR POP!


SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS IS A HOT CLUE-- I'VE GOT TO SNEAK INTO PARSONS' GARAGE SOMEHOW AND TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THOSE TIRES--LUCKY FOR ME POP POINTED OUT THAT BIG MANSION FOR ME UP ON THE HILL!
P.D.

THE BIG BOSS WAS SURE BURNED UP ABOUT THOSE TIRE MARKS-- WE GOTTA GET THAT RUBBER CHANGED FAST!
AW--WHAT'S EATIN' HIM-- THEY WOULDN'T SUSPECT A BIG SHOT LIKE PARSONS IN A MILLION YEARS!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, INSPECTOR CHAN RUSHES FROM HIS INVESTIGATION... ONLY TO BE GREETED BY AN EMPTY PARKING SPACE...
LIKE BAD PENNY, MISERABLE SON WILL RETURN WHEN UNWANTED --MEANWHILE PRESENT EMERGENCY DEMANDS: UTMOST HASTE!

CHARLIE CHAN

MEANWHILE...
WELL, INSPECTOR CHAN -- THIS IS A SURPRISE! COME IN!
THANK YOU, MR. PARSONS!
WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE TONIGHT, INSPECTOR?
INVESTIGATION REVEAL ATTORNEY PARSONS ON VERGE OF BANKRUPTCY -- INDEBTED TO MRS. MURDOCK $40,000 FOR UNSOUND INVESTMENTS!
YOU CAN'T PROVE ANYTHING ON ME -- I TOLD YOU I WAS AT THE BAR ASSOCIATION BANQUET THAT NIGHT -- I SHOULD HAVE YOU ARRESTED FOR SLANDER!
FURTHER INVESTIGATION REVEAL PUBLIC DEFENDER PARSONS BEFRIEND PAROLED CONVICTS, BOOTS MORAN AND JOLTER HAGAN -- ALIBIS OF SAME MAY NOT BE SO AIR-TIGHT!
ALL RIGHT, CHAN -- YOU KNOW THE SCRIPT BETTER THAN I THOUGHT -- BUT IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD -- BOOTS AND JOLTER ARE OUT IN THE GARAGE RIGHT NOW -- READY TO TAKE YOU FOR A LITTLE RIDE---
AS CHARLIE CHAN TALKS TO PARSONS, HIS HANDS BEHIND HIS BACK OPERATE A SMALL FOUNTAIN PEN FLASHLIGHT THAT KEEPS BLINKING ON AND OFF....
AND OUTSIDE...
THERE'S THE SIGNAL -- C'MON -- LET'S GO!
AS THE POLICE CLOSE IN ON LAWYER PARSONS, THEY ARE UNAWARE OF THE CRISIS TAKING PLACE IN THE GARAGE...
WHAT WILL WILL WE DO WITH HIM, BOOTS? MAYBE I CAN BEAT HIM TO DEATH...
WE GOT ANOTHER JOB TO DO FIRST... PUT HIM IN THIS OIL BARREL UNTIL WE'RE DONE HERE...

CHARLIE CHAN

Tales of the MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER

I WAS THERE!

WELL, I WAS THERE WHEN THAT FIRST METAL GLOBE LEVELLED OFF AND STARTED IT'S FIRST SWIFT ORBIT...

Tales of the MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER

SCOTLAND YARD

INSPECTOR FARNSWORTH OF SCOTLAND YARD

NERVE CENTER AND HEADQUARTERS OF GREAT BRITAIN'S CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION SYSTEM IS THE ANCIENT BUILDING ON THE THAMES EMBANKMENT, KNOWN THE WORLD OVER AS SCOTLAND YARD. JUST AS FAMOUS IS THE QUIET EFFICIENCY OF THE YARD'S CORPS OF INSPECTORS... AMONG WHOSE HIGHLY-TRAINED RANKS **INSPECTOR JOHN K. FARNSWORTH** RATES HIGH. ON A RECENT MORNING, AN INNOCENT-SOUNDING PHONE CALL STARTED FARNSWORTH OFF ON ONE OF HIS BIZARRE CASES...

SCOTLAND YARD

SCOTLAND YARD

SCOTLAND YARD

SCOTLAND YARD

SCOTLAND YARD

PC 49
IN
THE CASE OF THE TINY 'TEC
STORY by ALAN STRANKS
DRAWN by JOHN WORSLEY
GOTCHER!
OUCH!
B-BULL'S EYE!
HELP!
HOLD IT, GANG! HERE'S P.C.49 COMING OFF DUTY!
WHERE THE SNOW LAY ROUND ABOUT DEEP AND CRISP AND EVEN...
O.K., GANG! FIRE!!!
MY SUNDAY HELMET!!
COME ON, MICK!
I'M WITH YOU, BROTHER!
HA-HA-HA!
HO-HO-HO!
TIT FOR TAT, MICK AND PAT!
HEE-HEE-HEE!
UNAWARE OF WHAT LIES IN STORE, CHIEF INSPECTOR WILSON AND SERGEANT WRIGHT TURN THE CORNER....
I'M SURE THAT WAS P.C.49. I WANT A WORD WITH HIM.
LOOK OUT, SIR!
JEEPERS!
OOMPH!
STEADY, THERE!
YOUNG DEMONS! TWO OF P.C.49's GANG, WEREN'T THEY?
THE MULLIGAN TWINS!...BOYS WILL BE BOYS, SIR!
FOOTSTEPS! THE TWINS ARE COMING BACK!
WE'D BETTER HURRY IF WE WANT TO CATCH P.C.49, SIR.
COP THIS, YOU YOUNG STINKERS!
GREAT GRIEF!
FORTYNINE!!!
S-SORRY, SIR — I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE MAD MULLIGANS.
YOU'RE A DISGRACE TO YOUR UNIFORM!
NOT YOUR LUCKY DAY, SIR!
I WANT YOU TO KEEP A SHARP EYE OUT FOR THIS TYPE. HE'S "BUNCO" BLITZEN.
HE ESCAPED FROM CUSTODY LAST NIGHT AND IS BELIEVED TO BE HIDING SOMEWHERE IN "G" DIVISION.
A VICIOUS CROOK! GET HIM, AND I'LL EVEN FORGIVE YOU FOR THAT SNOWBALL.
WANTED £100 REWARD
I'LL DO MY BEST, CHIEF!
WATCH THIS, WRIGHT!
MORE STRENGTH TO YOUR ARM, SIR!
GOOD SHOT, SIR!
THAT'LL TEACH HIM!
WHAT THE....!

AS P.C.49 AND THE GANG MOVE OFF....
I THOUGHT I'D DIE LAUGHING!
THOROUGHLY DIVERTING!
O, SO FUNNY!
MOST UNDIGNIFIED!
G-GOLLY- MY R-RIBS ACHE!

..... EVIL EYES WATCH FROM A WINDOW IN THE DERELICT HOUSE CLOSE BY.
ROTTEN COPPERS!
THEY'D 'AVE GIVEN PLENTY TO KNOW YOU WAS ONLY A FEW YARDS AWAY WHILE THEY WAS LARKING ABOUT THERE, BUNCO.

NOT THINKING OF TURNING ME IN FOR THAT REWARD, ARE YOU SCUTTLEBUT?
WHO-ME? DON'T BE CRAZY! I HATE COPPERS AS MUCH AS YOU DO!

I FOUND THIS HIDE-OUT, DIDN'T I?
O.K. - FORGET IT!... OUR NEXT MOVE IS TO DO A HOLD-UP JOB AND GET SOME READY CASH.

I'M GOING TO GET SOME SHUT-EYE UNTIL IT'S DARK.
I'VE RUN OUT OF FAGS. I'LL NIP OUT AND GET SOME.

MEANWHILE....
WHO IS THIS "BUNCO" CHARACTER, FORTYNINE?
A BRUTAL THUG. HE ESCAPED AFTER BEING ARRESTED FOR BEATING UP AND ROBBING A POOR OLD MAN.
B-BEAST!
CAN WE SEE HIS PICTURE?

WOTCHER, PAT!
HELLO, O MICK!
SO THERE YOU ARE, YOU SCALLYWAGS!
PUTTING IN SOME PRACTICE IN CASE YOU WANTED YOUR REVENGE.

ALL IS FORGIVEN!
WE SURE STARTED SOMETHING WHEN WE SLOSHED YOU WITH THOSE SNOWBALLS.
WAS WILSON MAD?

THAT'S "BUNCO" BLITZEN. IF YOU SEE HIS UGLY MUG, CALL THE NEAREST COPPER PRONTO!
HE LOOKS A DIRTY DOG.
A PROPER RAT!
WE'LL WATCH OUT FOR HIM, FORTYNINE.
THE OBSERVATION SHALL BE UNCEASING, O COPPER.
L-LET ME SEE!

"B-BUNCO" B-BLITZEN! HM! HE'D BETTER WATCH OUT, IF I SEE HIM!

WHERE ARE YOU OFF TO, BIG-SHOT?
HE'S GOING TO ARREST "BUNCO"!
GOT YOUR TRUSTY WATER-PISTOL, BUNNY?
N-NO! THAT'S WHAT I'M GOING B'BACK FOR. I MUST'VE D-DROPPED IT WHEN WE WERE S-SNOW-B-BALLING.

L-LOOKS LIKE I L-LOST MY PISTOL FOR G-GOOD. B-BLOW THIS SNOW!

B-BETTER SHELTER UNTIL THIS EASES OFF A B-BIT.
F-FUNNY! F-FOOTSTEPS COMING OUT OF THE OLD H-HOUSE. BUT N-NONE GOING IN!

D-DOOR'S OPEN! I S-SMELL A M-MYSTERY! I'D B-BETTER INVESTIGATE TH-THIS!

Z-Z-Z-Z-Z-Z! Z-Z-Z-Z-Z-Z!
S-SOMEONE S-SNORING LIKE A P-PIG!

B-BUNCO B-BLITZEN!
Z-Z-Z-Z-Z-Z! Z-Z-Z-Z-Z-Z!

NOW FOR IT!

H-HANDS UP! Y-YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
I MUST BE DREAMING!

CAREFUL, KID — THAT GUN'S LOADED!
I KNOW YOU, B-BUNCO BLITZEN! BACK — OR I'LL F-FIRE!

K-KEEP 'EM UP, YOU C-CROOK!
COPPED BY A KID!... IF THE MOB HEARS ABOUT THIS, I'LL BE THE JOKE OF DARTMOOR!

BUT DOWNSTAIRS, SCUTTLEBUT HAS RETURNED AND SEES THE DANGER SIGNS!
FOOTPRINTS — AND A ONE-WAY TRAIL! I'D BETTER GO SOFTLY!

O.K. YOUNG-UN— IT'S A FAIR COP! HA-HA-HA!
W-WHAT'S THE J-JOKE?

GOTCHER!
L-LEGGO!
THE JOKE'S ON YOU, KID!

HE WON'T GET OUT OF THAT IN A HURRY!
WE'LL LIE LOW 'TIL NIGHTFALL. THEN WE'LL SCRAM AND LEAVE JUNIOR SLEUTH HERE TO ROT!

THE CHANCE OF A L-LIFE-TIME — AND I M-MUFFED IT!

MEANWHILE, P.C.49 HAS LEFT THE CLUB AND IS ON HIS WAY TO THE "FLOPHOUSE".
I WONDER IF YOUNG BUNNY FOUND HIS PISTOL. I'LL WALK DOWN AND SEE IF HE'S STILL SEARCHING.

THE SAME THOUGHT STRIKES THE GANG AS THEY PREPARE TO GO HOME.
I WONDER IF BUNNY FOUND HIS WATER-PISTOL.
LET US GO HOME THAT WAY, O CHUMS.
HE'S BALMY ON THAT GAT! HE MAY STILL BE LOOKING FOR IT.
GET A MOVE ON, MULLIGANS!
IF I COME ACROSS THAT BUNCO BLOKE, I'LL GIVE HIM THE OLD "ONE-TWO" — LIKE THIS!

MEANWHILE, AT THE OLD HOUSE, BUNNY IS IN A PROPER PICKLE!
HE CAN'T DO ANY HARM! I'M GOING TO SLEEP.
ME, TOO! WE DAREN'T MOVE 'TIL DARK.

BUT THE CROOKS FAIL TO RECKON WITH BUNNY'S DETERMINATION!
I'VE JUST G-GOT TO GET THAT G-GUN!
Z-Z-Z-

I GUESS BUNNY'S FOUND HIS PISTOL AND GONE HOME — AND SO WILL I!

JUST AT THAT MOMENT BUNNY DOES FIND A PISTOL!
N-NOW FOR IT!
Z-Z-Z-Z-Z-

A GUNSHOT! I'D BETTER LOOK INTO THIS!
CRACKKK!!

YOU LITTLE BRAT!
BUNCO! THERE'S A COPPER OUT THERE — AND HE'S COMING IN!

I'M READY FOR HIM!

WAIT! I HEARD A PISTOL-SHOT!
OH, COME OFF IT, GIGS!
A CAR BACK-FIRED!
MY EARS TELL ME GIGS IS RIGHT!

THAT SHOT CAME FROM UPSTAIRS!
OO.

BUNNY!!!
COP THIS, COPPER!

CRACKKAK!!
ANOTHER SHOT!
TROUBLE!
LET'S GO!
HOLD IT! THE TWINS WILL GO ROUND THE BACK, GIGS, TIKI AND I WILL TAKE THE FRONT DOOR!

THAT SHOT CAME FROM UP HERE!
KEEP CLIMBING, BROTHER!

I'VE DONE THAT COPPER IN SCUTTLEBUT!
WE'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE — FAR AND QUICK!

AS THE CROOKS BURST INTO THE OPEN...
HE'S GOT A GUN!
LET 'EM HAVE IT!

...GRUGGG!!!

O.K. SMARTIES! UP WITH YOUR HANDS!
GOLLY!
JINGO!
WOW!

BUT MEANWHILE, ON THE ROOF...
READY, MICK?
SLIDE, BROTHER, SLIDE!

WHAT THE...!
OUCH!
TRUST THE TERRIBLE TWINS!

LATER....
I WAS LUCKY — THAT BULLET ONLY GRAZED MY CHEEK!
I'LL SHOW 'EM!
GIVE ME THAT GUN, HERO!
LET'S MARCH 'EM DOWN TO THE LOCK-UP!
WHAT A SURPRISE FOR INSPECTOR WILSON!
ABOMINABLE SNOWMEN! HA-HA-HA!
WOW!

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MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION

THE REPORTER IS RIGHT! SLOWLY BUT SURELY, THE TOWN DISAPPEARS INTO THE EARTH!
I'VE GOT TO TAKE AN AERIAL PHOTO OF THIS OVER TO HEADQUARTERS, FAST!

PRESENTLY...
GENERAL MAVOR, HERE'S A PHOTO I TOOK OF THE SUNKEN CITY. IT'S COMPLETELY UNDER-GROUND NOW.
UNBELIEVABLE!

WHAT'S WORSE, WE JUST RECEIVED WORD THAT SEVERAL OTHER MAJOR CITIES HAVE DROPPED INTO THE GROUND. THIS IS A NATIONAL EMERGENCY!

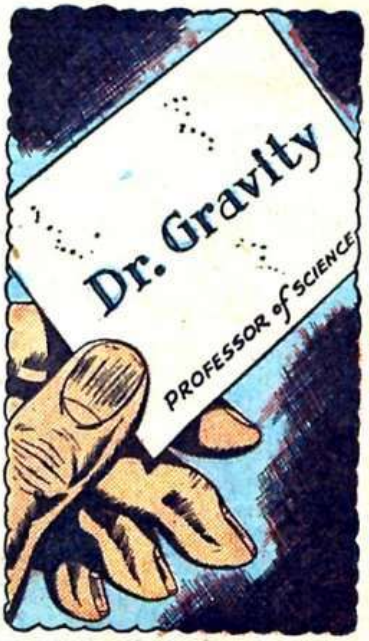
AND, IN AN EMERGENCY, THE NATION LOOKS TO A QUIET NEVADA LABORATORY, WHERE, HARD AT WORK IS...
CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT!
WHAT IS IT, CHUCK? I'M WORKING ON THE DIGGER!

IT'S THE SACRED COW, CAP'N... THE PRESIDENTIAL PLANE!

MR. PRESIDENT, THIS IS AN HONOR!
I'VE COME TO ASK YOUR HELP, CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT. OUR COUNTRY IS IN GRAVE DANGER!

...EACH ONE OF THE CITIES DISAPPEARED INTO THE GROUND THROUGH EARTHQUAKE-LIKE FISSURES. LUCKILY, WE HAD TIME TO GET PEOPLE OUT, SO NO LIVES WERE LOST!
I SEE! TELL ME, GENERAL, DO YOU HAVE ANY CLUES AS TO THE CAUSE?

CLUES? WELL, CAPTAIN, SEVERAL DAYS AGO, I HAD A STRANGE VISITOR. HE INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS...


Dr. Gravity
PROFESSOR of SCIENCE

WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, DOCTOR?
I HAVE A CLAIM, GENERAL MAVOR, AGAINST THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT!

IN THIS PORTFOLIO, I HAVE A DOCUMENT GIVEN TO MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER ON THE ISLAND OF ELBA BY NAPOLEON BONAPARTE. IT GIVES HIM THE TITLE TO THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY-THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE UNITED STATES. THAT TITLE HAS NOW PASSED TO ME!

WHEN I TOLD DR. GRAVITY THAT THE CLAIM WAS RIDICULOUS, HE GREW ANGRY! HE THREATENED TO BRING ABOUT A DISASTER THAT WOULD RUIN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY!
HMMM...

THEN YOU THINK, GENERAL, THAT DR. GRAVITY MAY BE BEHIND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THESE CITIES?
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK, CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT!

BUT WE'VE COME TO YOU, AS AMERICA'S LEADING SCIENTIST AND INVENTOR, TO DO WHAT YOU CAN.
I'LL GET STARTED AT ONCE, MR. PRESIDENT, WITH CHUCK RAMSEY TO HELP ME!

WHICH PLANE WILL WE TAKE, CAP?
IT'LL BE THE JET PLANE, SON, BUT FIRST I'LL CHANGE TO CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!

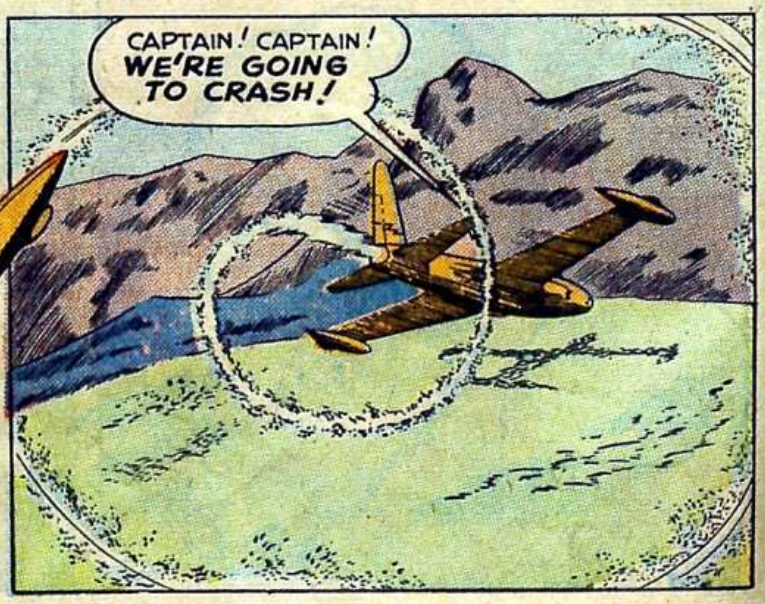
AS ALWAYS, IN TIME OF DANGER, THE MIGHTY INVENTOR IS TRANSFORMED TO THE FAMED AIR-FIGHTER-CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!
ALL SET, CHUCK? WE'RE HEADING EAST!

WHY EAST, CAP?
BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE THE MYSTERIOUS SINKING TOOK PLACE!

WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHETHER DR. GRAVITY IS BEHIND THE MYSTERIOUS FORCE THAT DRAGGED THEM DOWN!
AND SEE WHETHER WE CAN GET THEM UP AGAIN, EH CAP?

LOOK! THERE'S THE FIRST SUNKEN CITY!
I'LL TAKE THE PLANE DOWN, CHUCK.

SUDDENLY!
WE'RE SPINNING! SOMETHING GRIPPED THE PLANE!


CAPTAIN! CAPTAIN! WE'RE GOING TO CRASH!

GOT... TO... PULL... OUT!

MADE IT! WHAT FLYING, CAP!
IT WAS THAT OR DIB, CHUCK! NOW LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE NEVADA LAB. WE'VE GOT OUR FIRST REAL CLUE!

I'VE TESTED THE JET PLANE'S INSTRUMENTS, TO DETERMINE THE DIRECTION OF THE FORCE THAT WAS PULLING US TO THE GROUND...

UNQUESTIONABLY, IT WAS THE SAME STRONG FORCE THAT PULLED THE CITIES DOWN. AND MY TESTS SHOW THAT IT CAME FROM THE MAMMOTH CAVES, IN KENTUCKY!
THEN THAT'S OUR NEXT STOP, EH, CAP?

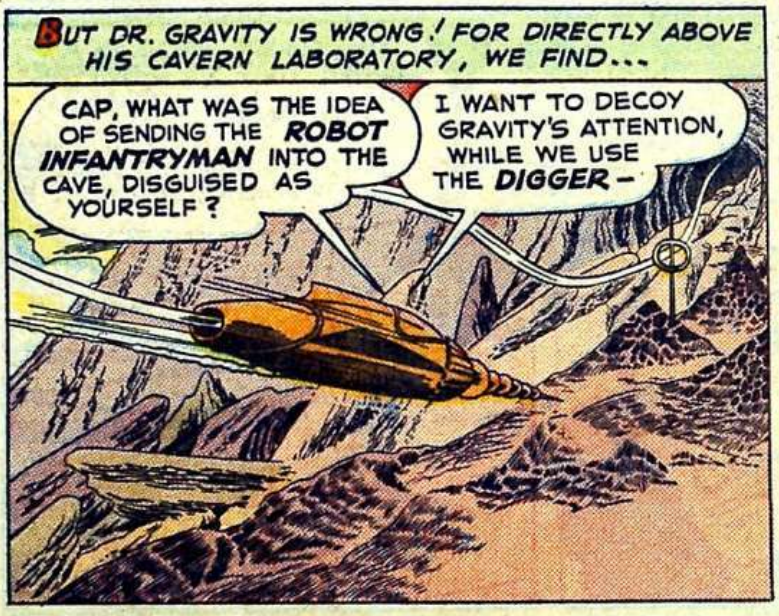
YES, CHUCK, AND I'VE A HUNCH THAT WE'D BETTER USE THE AERO-DIGGER TO GET THERE! WE'LL PROBABLY NEED ITS EXPLOSIVE DRILL POWER BEFORE WE'RE THROUGH.

DEEP IN THE LABYRINTHS OF MAMMOTH CAVES, A SINISTER FIGURE IS ON GUARD...
THE APPROACH DETECTOR! IT'S VIBRATING! THAT MEANS SOMEONE IS COMING!

AH, A VISITOR. AND IT'S NONE OTHER THAN CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT! I MUST PREPARE A REAL SURPRISE FOR HIM!

SUDDENLY!

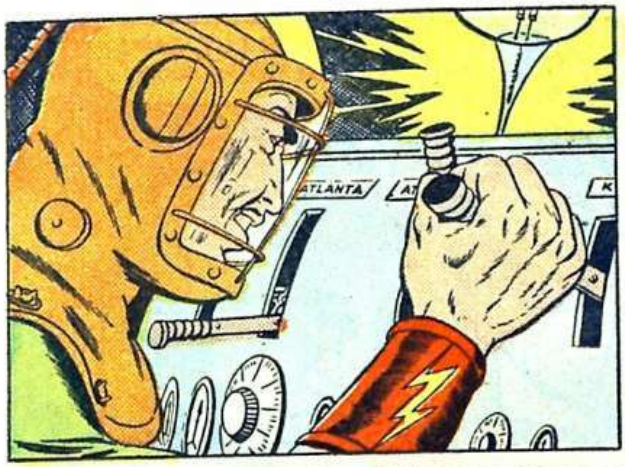
SUPERB! LUCKY I PREPARED THAT RECEPTION IN ADVANCE! AND NOW TO GIVE THOSE IDIOTS ABOVE ANOTHER TASTE OF THEIR MEDICINE!


BUT DR. GRAVITY IS WRONG! FOR DIRECTLY ABOVE HIS CAVERN LABORATORY, WE FIND...
CAP, WHAT WAS THE IDEA OF SENDING THE ROBOT INFANTRYMAN INTO THE CAVE, DISGUISED AS YOURSELF?
I WANT TO DECOY GRAVITY'S ATTENTION, WHILE WE USE THE DIGGER—

—TO BLAST OUR WAY INTO HIS HIDE-OUT!

WE'LL BE THERE IN A MINUTE, CHUCK!
BZ-Z-Z-Z-ZZ...

MEANWHILE...
SO GENERAL MAVOR LAUGHED AT MY CLAIM TO THE OLD LOUISIANA TERRITORY, EH? LET HIM LAUGH AT A FEW MORE CITIES SINKING!


ATLANTA

IN A MOMENT, MY COSMIC RAY FORCES WILL GO TO WORK, WEAKENING THE EARTH'S COUNTER-GRAVITY STRESSES! THEN UNRESISTED GRAVITY WILL PRESS ANOTHER CITY INTO THE EARTH!

IN A GREAT CITY, HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY...
HELP! HELP! WE'RE SINKING!
GET EVERYONE OUT OF TOWN! HURRY!

WE'RE ALMOST THERE... HANG ON, CHUCK!
RIGHT WITH YOU, CAP!

CRAACK!
WHAT TH'!

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT! BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE—
NO, GRAVITY! YOUR TRAP CLOSED ON ONE OF MY INVENTIONS, THE ROBOT INFANTRYMAN, DISGUISED AS ME!

BUT I'M SURE YOU'RE NOT A ROBOT, SO HERE GOES!
OOOFF!
SOK!

WATCH OUT, CAP! HE'S GOT A GUN!

YOU'RE QUITE AN INVENTOR, DR. GRAVITY, BUT HAVE YOU EVER MET THE BLACKOUT BOMB?

WHERE-WHERE ARE YOU, MIDNIGHT? I CAN'T SEE!
RUSH HIM!

BUT DR. GRAVITY'S WARPED MIND HAS ONE LAST RESOURCE!
STAND BACK! I'LL DASH US ALL TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH!

KER-BOOM!

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DEREK ROY THE ATOMIC COMIC "Ah, Yes!"

I take the smile off the face of a salesman when I "cut up rough" with a lawn-mower. He looks proper for-'lorn'!

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